



STAFF PHOTO/CHRIS BERNSTEIN

Peter Buttus, who had been interim director for the past six months, is now the permanent director of public works for the Town of Duxbury.

DPW is his department now

Buttus named permanent public works director

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After working as the interim department of public works director for the last six months, Peter Buttus officially took over the position on July 14.

Acting as the DPW director is nothing new for Buttus. Prior to his interim role this year after former DPW director Tom Daley took a position as DPW commissioner in Newton, he was the interim director for nine months when Walter Tonaszuck resigned as director in November of 2001.

"It is exciting. It has been a long haul in six months doing the acting thing," Buttus said. "The

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Peter Buttus

process was both exciting and humbling; a lot of people come to your support and encourage you. It gives you a good feeling."

Buttus said when he accepted the job as interim director, he was not sure he was going to apply for the permanent position. He said when he was asked it took him a long time to decide.

"I like what I do. I don't want to lose that," he said. "I needed to tailor that into my function now, and I am comfortable doing that."

As Buttus steps into his new permanent role as DPW director, he said no decision has been made on what will happen with his former position as manager of buildings and grounds.

Buttus has worked in Duxbury since 1994, and held the position of manager of buildings and grounds for the past seven years, where he was responsible for all town buildings excluding schools and municipal fields. He was also the lands and natural resources manager and the tree warden.

"Peter has been a longtime employee; he has been acting DPW recently and has done a tremendous job," Town Manager Richard MacDonald said.

According to MacDonald, he had two excellent candidates for the position.

"It was a very difficult decision for me," he said. "In the end, given his experience and the work he has been performing, I chose (Buttus) as our DPW director."

Buttus said one of his main priorities as settles into his new posi-

tion will be focusing on the budget for the March 2009 Town Meeting. The department has a lot on its table, including being in the middle of a cemetery expansion project and ongoing water projects like Damon Wells and the new water tower, but he said the budget is a big issue.

"Things have run incredibly smooth for having so much going on. I give credit to all DPW staff; they have made the whole process doable and helped me make it run smooth," he said. "They have been super!"

Daley, who worked on the projects prior to taking his new position, said Duxbury is a great community and he would always be interested in offering help to make sure it continues in the future.

"I wish Mr. Buttus the best of luck, and anything I can do to help him out feel free to call me," Daley said.

"I am excited for him," Finance Director John Madden said. "I have worked with him in the past and I look forward to his continued good relations in his new position."

Buttus said he has seen a lot of changes over the years in Duxbury, and looks forward to seeing a lot more.

"I would love to finish out my career in Duxbury. I don't like to move around a lot. I enjoy the town and appreciate the town," he said.